

Jim Henson's™

# The Dark Crystal™

TALES

by CORY GODBEY





*Jim Henson's™*

# THE DARK CRYSTAL™ TALES



Published by  
ARCHAIA™



*Jim Henson's™*

**THE  
DARK  
CRYSTAL™**

**TALES**

*by* **CORY GODBEY**

Designer  
KELSEY DIETERICH

Associate Editor  
CAMERON CHITTOCK

Editor  
SIERRA HAHN

Special Thanks to Brian Henson, Lisa Henson, Jim Formanek, Nicole Goldman, Maryanne Pittman, Carla Della Vedova, Justin Hilden, Karen Falk, Erin Godbey, Courtney Wise, Shen Leidigh, David Petersen, Benjamin Schipper, J.M. Lee, and the entire Jim Henson Company team.

ROSS RICHIE CEO & Founder  
MATT GAGNON Editor-in-Chief  
FILIP SABLJK President of Publishing & Marketing  
STEPHEN CHRISTY President of Development  
LANCE KREITER VP of Licensing & Merchandising  
PHIL BARBARO VP of Finance  
ARUNE SINGH VP of Marketing  
BRYCE CARLSON Managing Editor  
MEL CAYLO Marketing Manager  
SCOTT NEWMAN Production Design Manager  
KATE HENNING Operations Manager  
SIERRA HAHN Senior Editor  
DAFNA PLEBAN Editor, Talent Development  
SHANNON WATERS Editor  
ERIC HARBURN Editor  
WHITNEY LEOPARD Editor  
JASMINE AMIRI Editor

CHRIS ROSA Associate Editor  
ALEX GALER Associate Editor  
CAMERON CHITTOCK Associate Editor  
MATTHEW LEVINE Assistant Editor  
SOPHIE PHILIPS-ROBERTS Assistant Editor  
KELSEY DIETERICH Designer  
JILLIAN CRAB Production Designer  
MICHELLE ANKLEY Production Designer  
KARA LEOPARD Production Designer  
GRACE PARK Production Design Assistant  
ELIZABETH LOUGHRIDGE Accounting Coordinator  
STEPHANIE HOCUTT Social Media Coordinator  
JOSE MEZA Event Coordinator  
JAMES ARRIOLA Mailroom Assistant  
HOLLY AITCHISON Operations Assistant  
MEGAN CHRISTOPHER Operations Assistant  
AMBER PARKER Administrative Assistant



ARCHAIA.

*Jim Henson*  
THE JIM HENSON COMPANY

JIM HENSON'S THE DARK CRYSTAL TALES, July 2017. Published by Archaia, a division of Boom Entertainment, Inc. © 2017 The Jim Henson Company. JIM HENSON'S mark & logo, THE DARK CRYSTAL mark & logo, and all related characters and elements are trademarks of The Jim Henson Company. All Rights Reserved. Archaia™ and the Archaia logo are trademarks of Boom Entertainment, Inc., registered in various countries and categories. All characters, events, and institutions depicted herein are fictional. Any similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, events, and/or institutions in this publication to actual names, characters, and persons, whether living or dead, events, and/or institutions is unintended and purely coincidental.

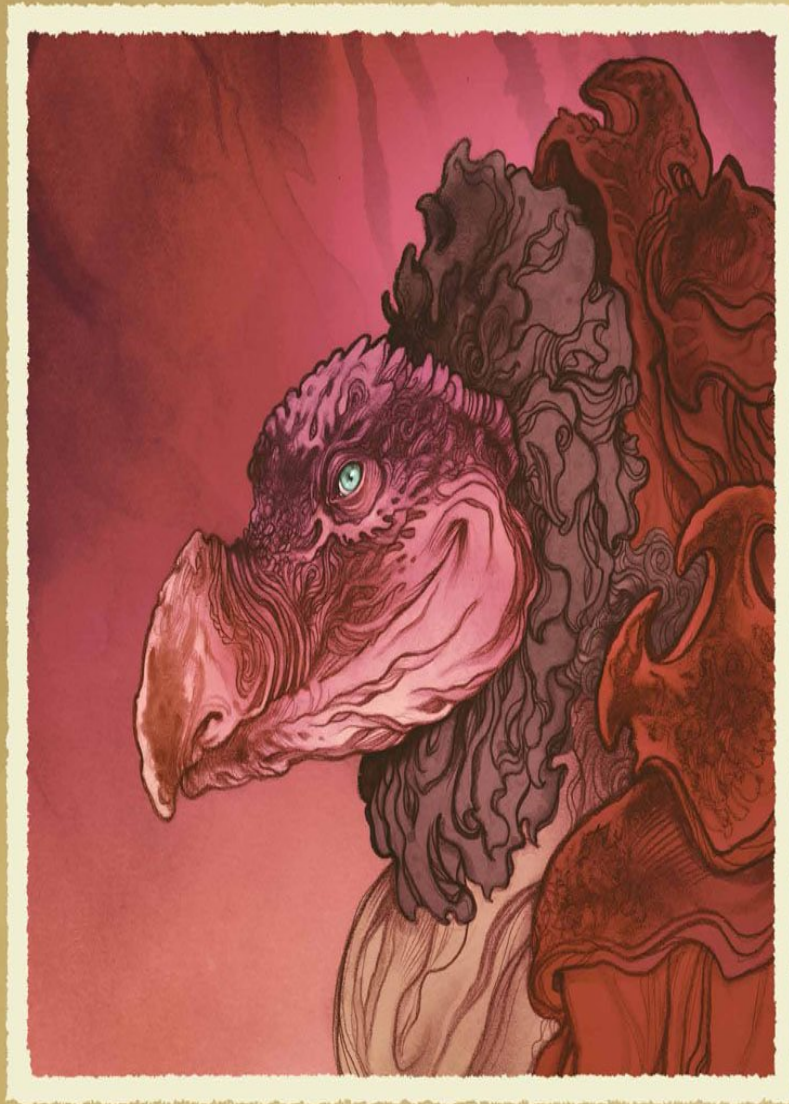
BOOM! Studios, 5670 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 450, Los Angeles, CA 90036-5679. Printed in China. First Printing.

ISBN: 978-1-60886-845-2, eISBN: 978-1-61398-516-8



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|                             |    |
|-----------------------------|----|
| Feast for the Skeksis.....  | 6  |
| Circles of Kindness.....    | 19 |
| Fizzgig's Mighty Quest..... | 33 |



FEAST FOR  
THE SKEKSIS

Within the Castle of the Crystal,  
the cruel Skeksis await their evening meal.







Enough of these wretched Podling cooks!

We must send one of the Garthim  
to trap us new food.

Something worth eating!



The Garthim dug a trap.



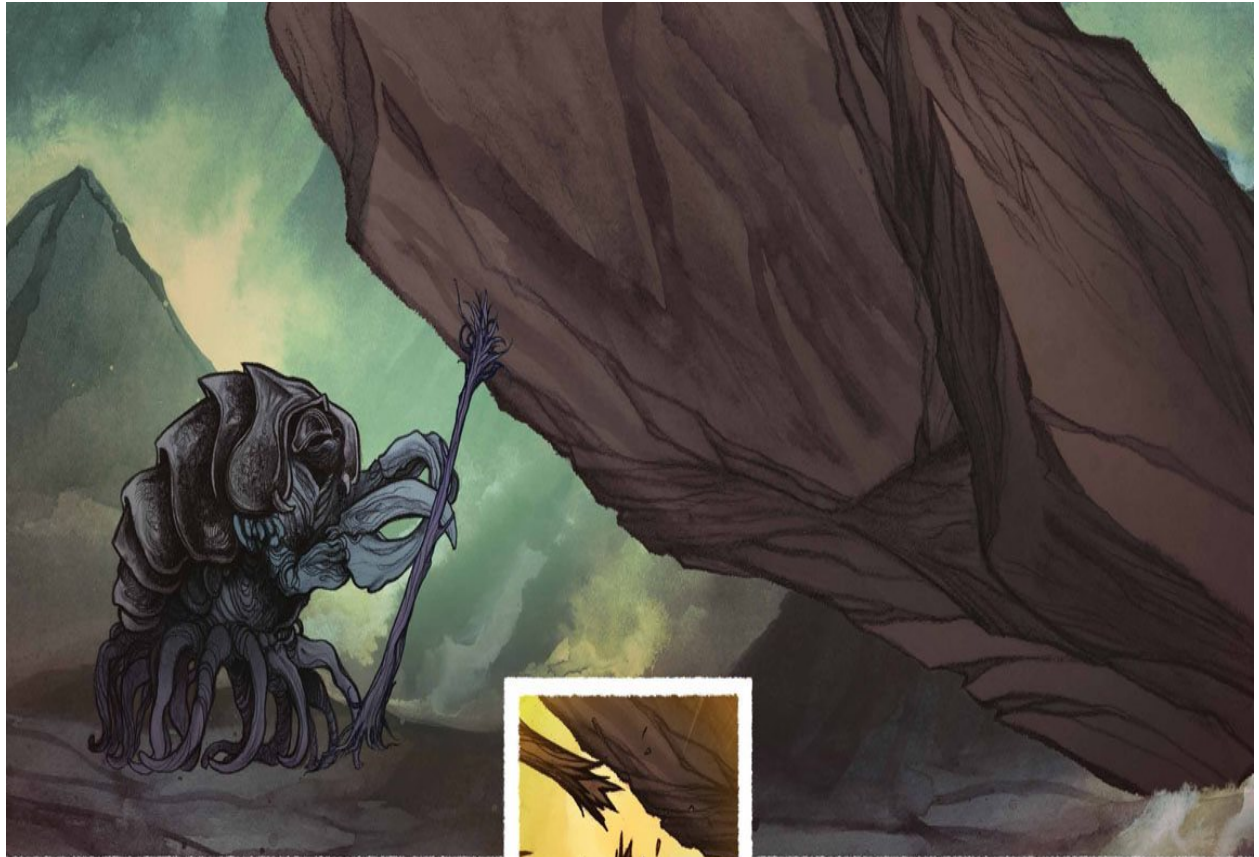
And waited.



Hm!

My Garthim do not fail!  
Let us go and see what manner  
of trap it has created.











Bah! Just a *sogbird*. Not even enough for eating.

Throw it away and get back to work!





# CIRCLES OF KINDNESS



Far from the Castle of the Crystal,  
hidden deep within the Valley of the Mystics,  
young Jen has found a creature in need.



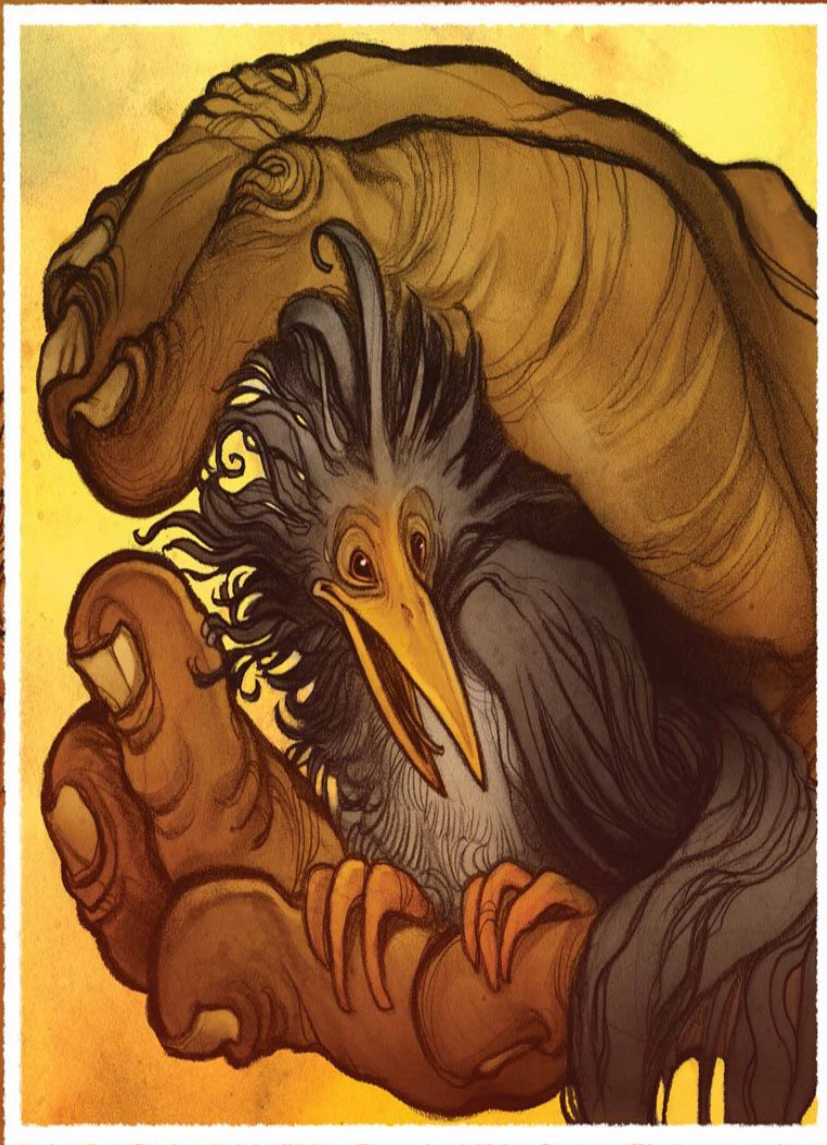


The Mystic carefully held the wounded creature in his wise, old hands.

There, there, now, Gelfling,  
let me see...



Ah! That is better.

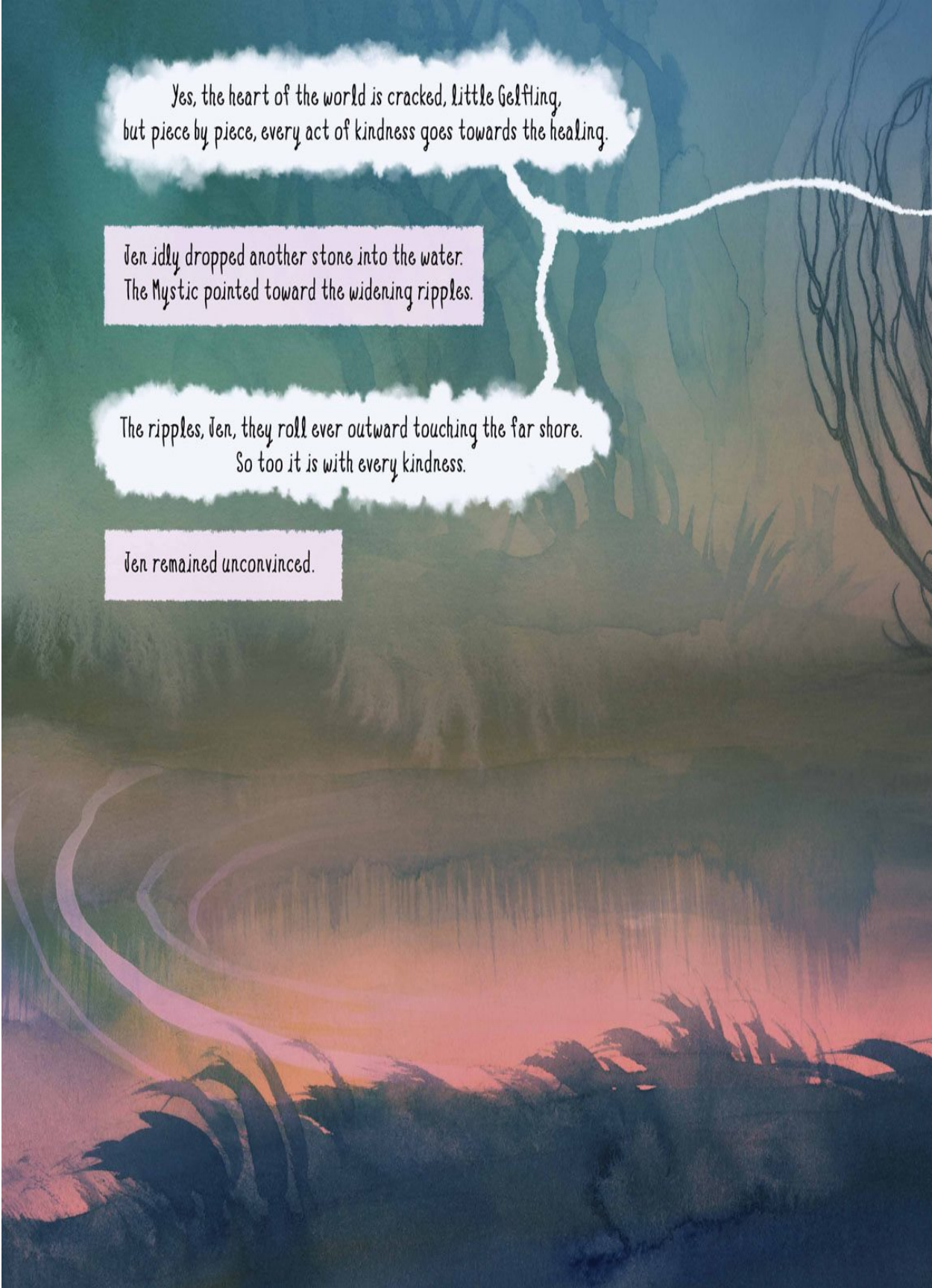




Jen wandered away and found himself on a grassy ledge above a pool. Deep in thought, he dropped stones, one by one, into the pond.

Just then, his Master appeared beside him.





Yes, the heart of the world is cracked, little Gelfling,  
but piece by piece, every act of kindness goes towards the healing.

Ten idly dropped another stone into the water.  
The Mystic pointed toward the widening ripples.

The ripples, Ten, they roll ever outward touching the far shore.  
So too it is with every kindness.

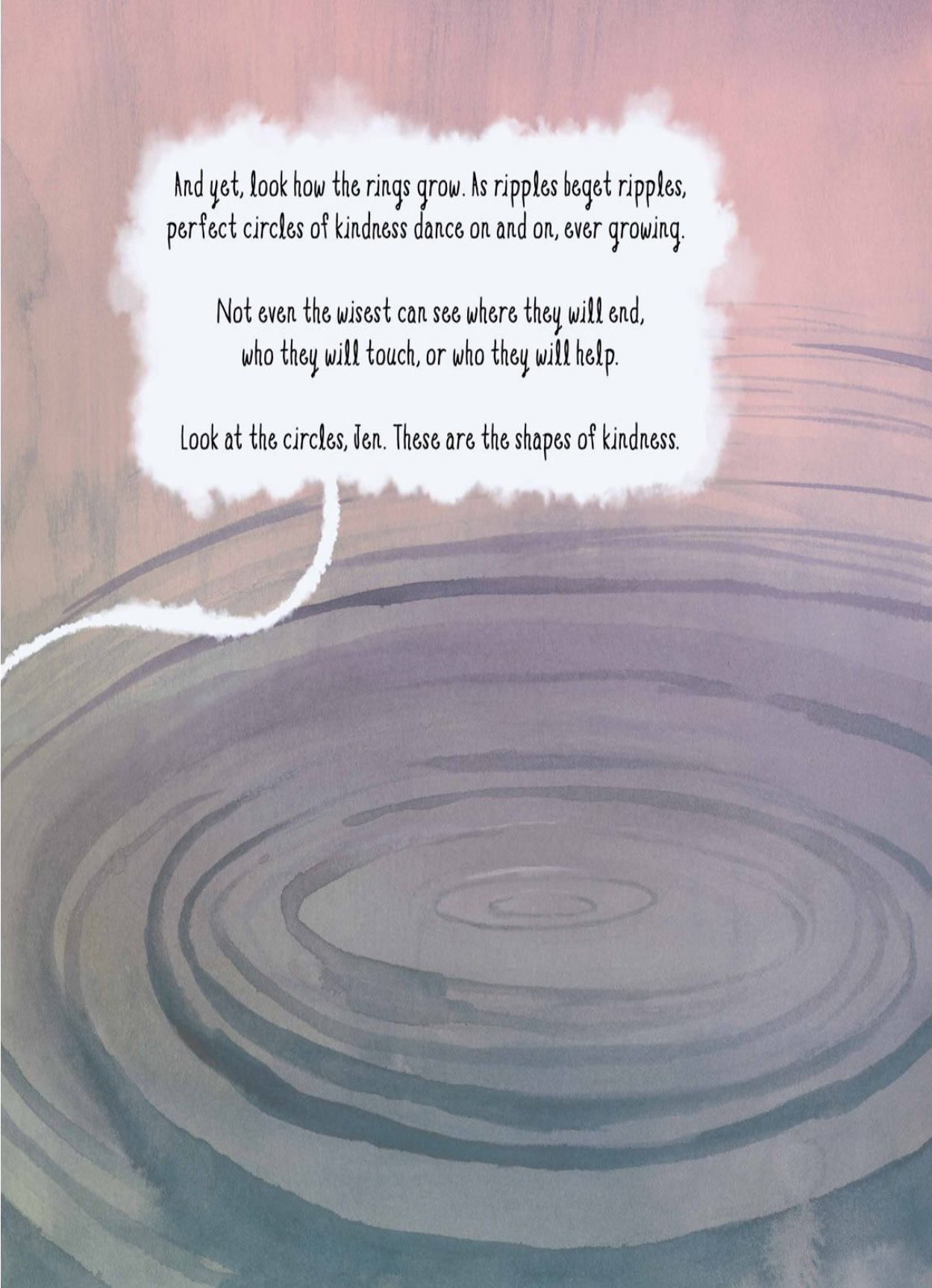
Ten remained unconvinced.



I understand your meaning but my hands  
are too small, Master. I can only toss  
small rocks and make small ripples.







And yet, look how the rings grow. As ripples beget ripples,  
perfect circles of kindness dance on and on, ever growing.

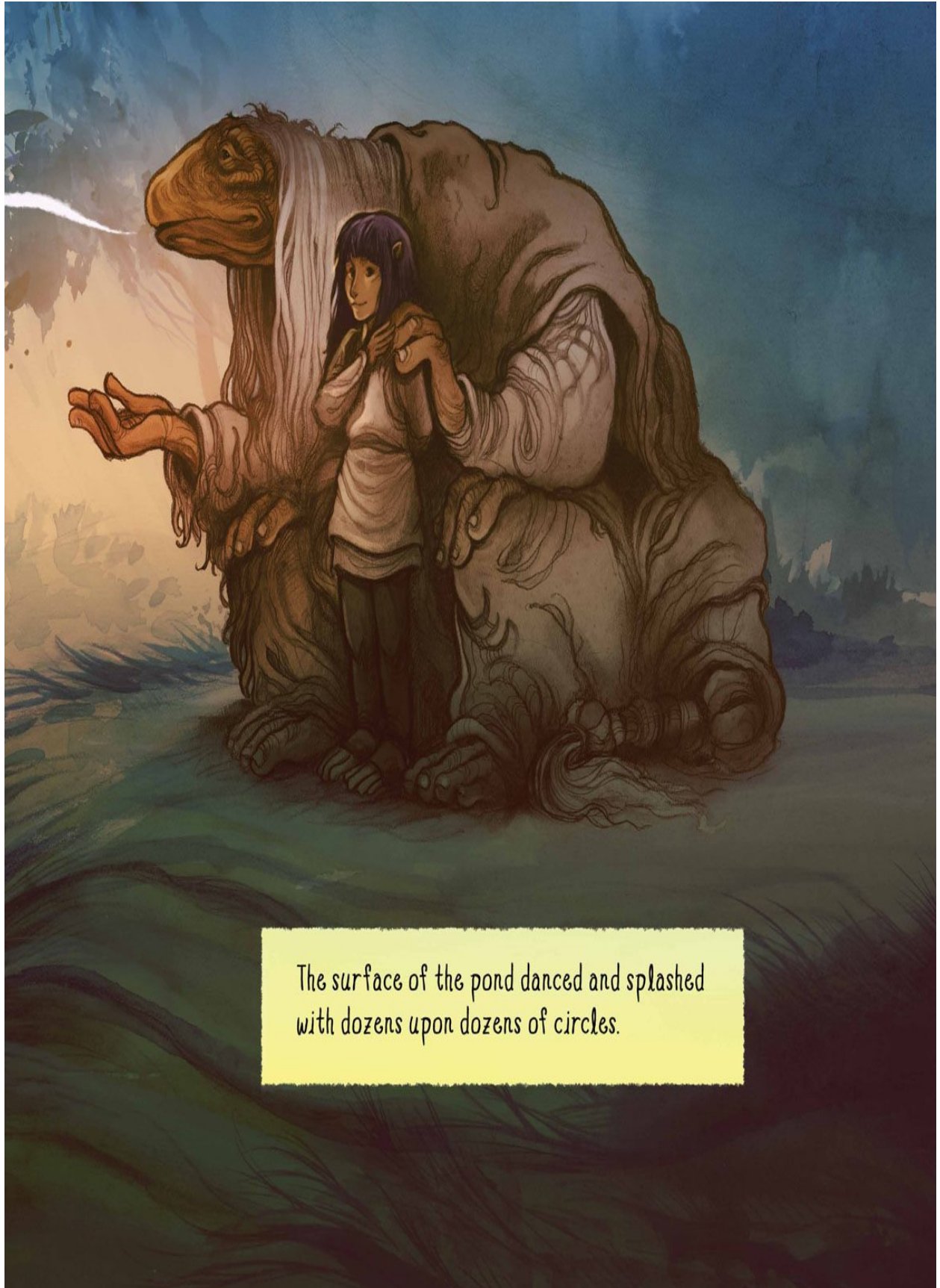
Not even the wisest can see where they will end,  
who they will touch, or who they will help.

Look at the circles, Jen. These are the shapes of kindness.

A watercolor illustration of a pond. In the foreground, there is a large, bright yellow and orange splash of water, suggesting a stone has just been thrown. The water in the pond is a mix of blue and green. In the background, there are dark green trees and foliage. The sky is a mix of blue and green. The overall style is soft and painterly.

And besides, my child, you are not the only one to make ripples in the world.

The Mystic scooped a handful of smooth stones and cast them into the water.



The surface of the pond danced and splashed  
with dozens upon dozens of circles.

Come, Gelfling, it is time for our tea.



# FIZZGIG'S MIGHTY QUEST



In the village of the gentle Podlings,  
Kira's mother, Ydra, has fallen ill.

Oh dear, I know just what she needs,  
a tea brewed from the sogflower.

I can't leave her side, Fizzgig, do you know the flower?



You do? Good! Hurry, Fizzgig!  
Find a sogflower and bring it back quickly!



Fizzgig ran.



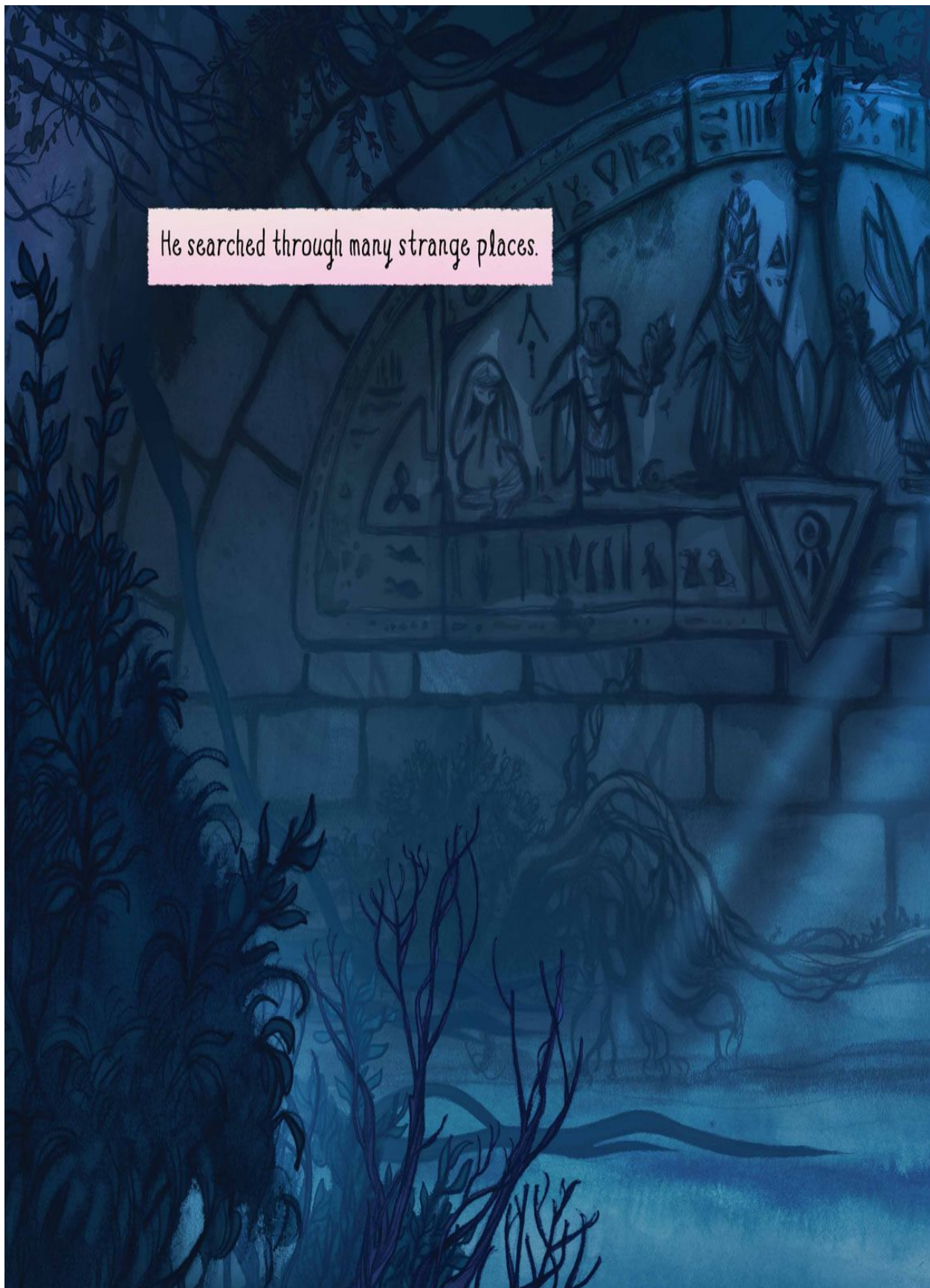
He searched high...

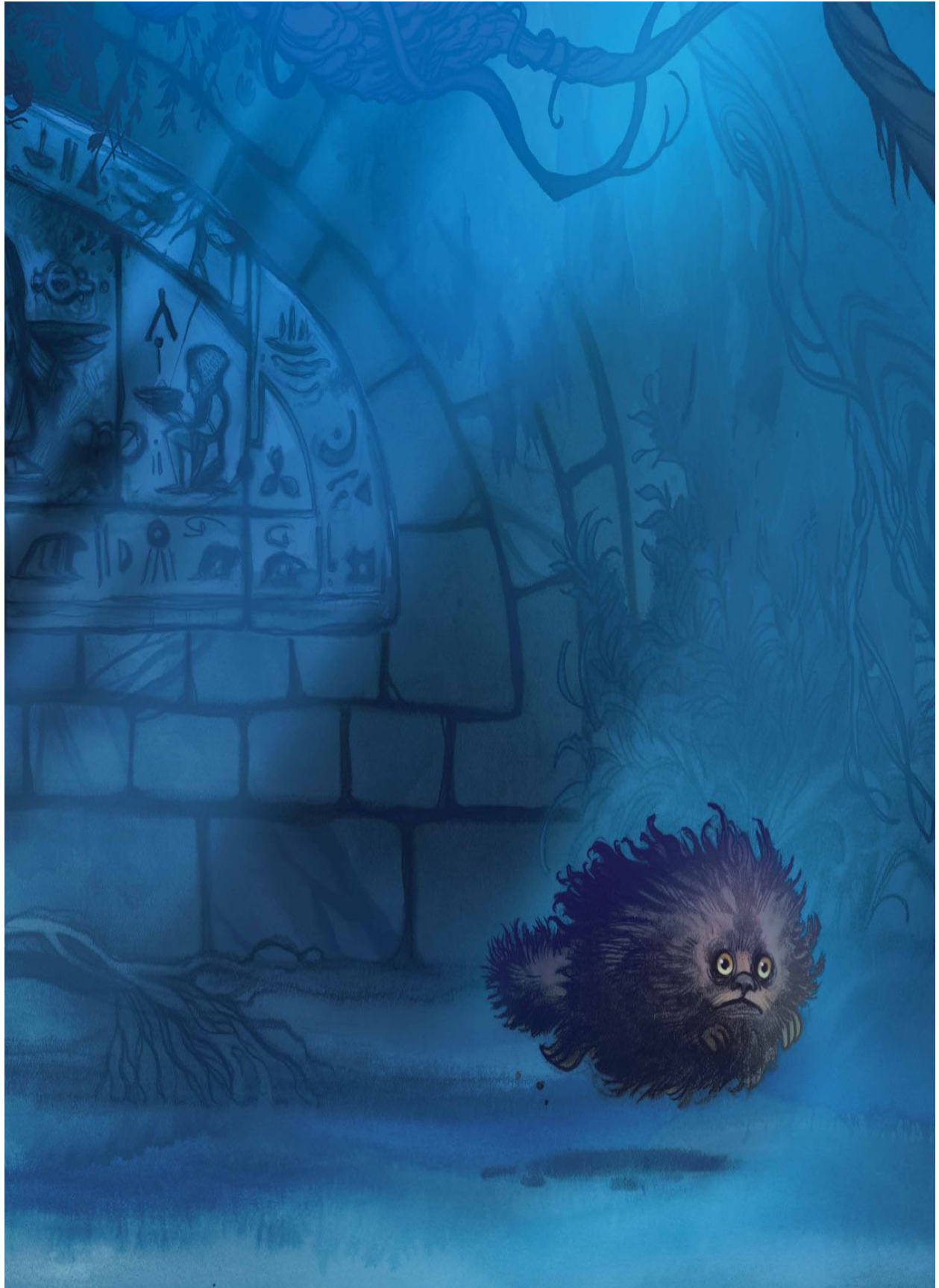


...and low.



He searched through many strange places.





But no matter how hard he tried,  
Fizzgig could not find the sogflower.



But then!









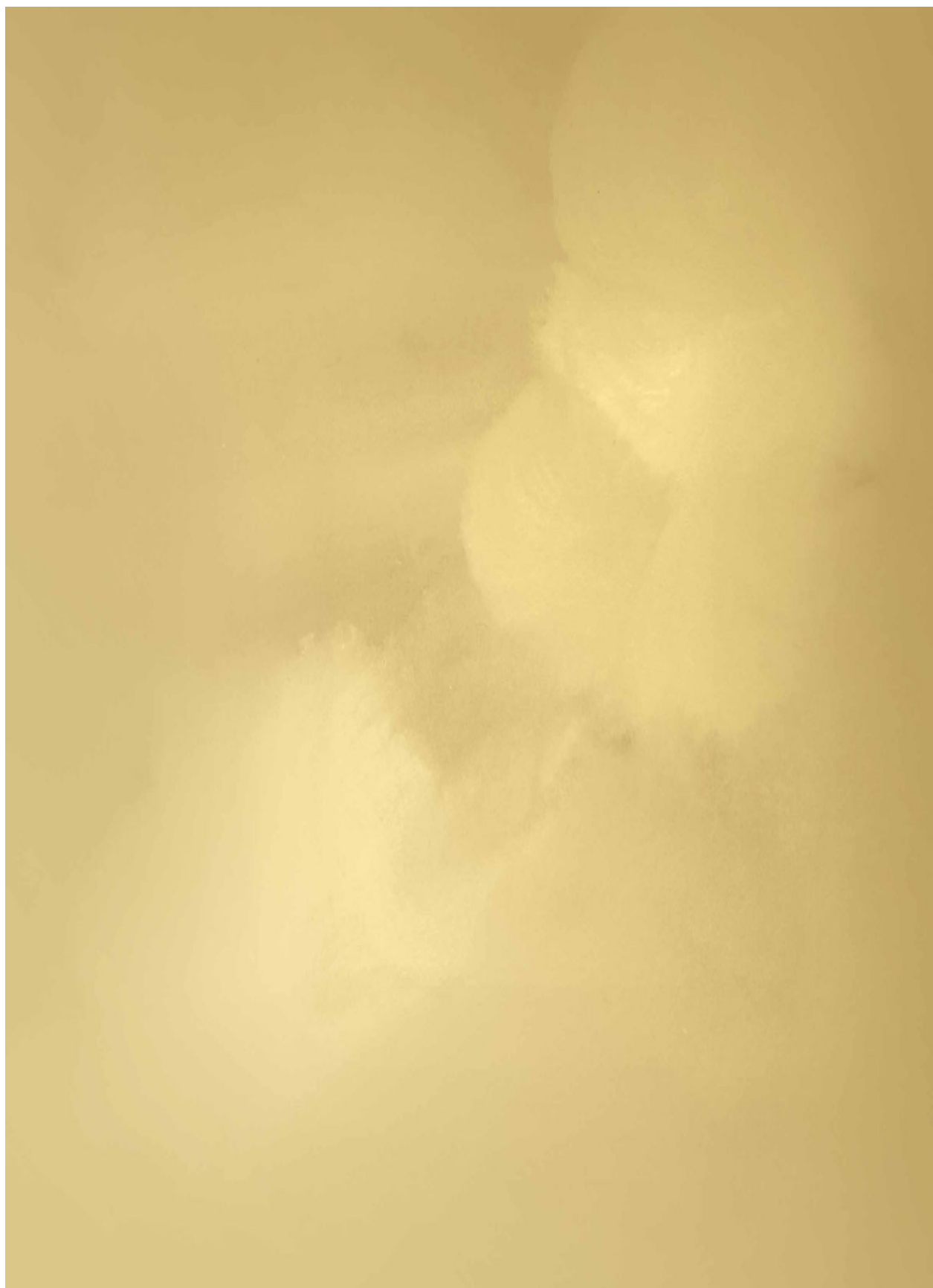








Photo by Greg Preston

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Cory Godbey** creates fanciful illustrations for books and films. His award-winning work has been featured in many esteemed annuals, including *Spectrum: The Best in Contemporary Fantastic Art* and *The Society of Illustrators*.

He enjoys meeting new creatures and hikes through twisting paths with friends.

Cory lives with his wife, son, and a pack of stray cats in Greenville, South Carolina. [www.corygodbey.com](http://www.corygodbey.com)





“The world of *The Dark Crystal* is a living piece of the great forest of words and pictures that are essential components of every fairy tale, folklore, or legend. And here in this book we have an artistic master of mythic landscapes and extraordinary characters, Cory Godbey’s sure aesthetic hand guides us to the heart of that deep, dark wood.”

—CHARLES VESS

World Fantasy Award-winning illustrator of *Stardust*

Join Jen, Kira, and Fizzgig from Jim Henson’s beloved cult-classic film *The Dark Crystal* before their fateful meeting. Here, they each embark on new side-adventures that will transform the life of one little bird after the cruel Skeksis set forth a series of events that ripple across the land.

Cory Godbey, the acclaimed children’s book storyteller behind the bestselling *Jim Henson’s Labyrinth Tales*, delves deeply into the Skeksis’ ruled land in this gorgeously rendered look at some of Jim Henson and Brian Froud’s finest creations.



ARCHAIA™

*Jim Henson*  
THE JIM HENSON COMPANY

